

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 1, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT:

Melissa J. Dixon
mdixon@eriecountypa.gov

COUNTY OF ERIE
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Erie County reports 154 new positive cases of COVID-19; cumulative total is 5,620

Director Lyon issues statement on data

Erie, PA – County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper and Erie County Department of Health announce 154 new positive cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Erie County as of 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30.

The total cumulative cases of COVID-19 in Erie County is 5,620, with 2,463 recovered cases, 3,079 active cases and 78 deaths (reported in NEDSS). This information can be found on the [chart](#) on the "Positive Cases in Erie County" page at eriecountypa.gov.

Erie County Department of Health Director Melissa Lyon issued this statement:

"As was expected, the daily case count has overwhelmed the system, and we can no longer accurately report the daily active cases and recovered cases. When the daily case counts were between 20 and 40, the disease investigators and contact tracers were able to communicate with every COVID-19-confirmed individual and determine when he or she was released from isolation and had recovered from the illness. With daily case counts far exceeding 100 per day, the staff is now unable to contact every COVID-19-positive person.

"Because of this, the most recent reports of active and recovered cases have been estimations generated within the Erie County Department of Health. Today, we are reporting the active and recovered cases using the state estimations. As was anticipated, the number of "active" cases is significantly greater than yesterday's reports because Pennsylvania Department of Health's estimation criteria leave them in positive status longer than the Erie County Department of Health estimation criteria does.

"At this time, the numbers that will be reported weekly will be estimations of active and recovered cases using the Pennsylvania Department of Health's methodology. We continue to review daily data and provide the most accurate reporting possible based upon the local public health capacity to do so."

All residents are reminded to wear a mask when near anyone who does not live inside their home, keep a 6-foot distance from others, stay home as much as possible – and definitely when feeling ill, wash hands frequently, and limit activities outside of their homes.

The next press briefing will take place Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 3 p.m. The County Executive is also providing updates on Mondays and Fridays via [Facebook](#).

###